



The Jewish

Gaily Forward

Tamuz + Av + Elul 5772 ■ July + August 2012

What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

THURSDAYS: JULY 5 AND AUGUST 16
Hear My Cry, O God, Heed My Prayer (Psalm 61:1), 7:00-9:00 pm
Taught by Rabbi Angel

What happens when a person prays? It seems like a simple question. Yet we realize that before we can answer any question about prayer in general, we need to ask ourselves about our own prayer life. Why do we pray? How do we pray? When do we pray? What is prayer for us? There could be an anthology of answers, but our emphasis will be on sharing the spiritual guidance we've learned with our own experience.

SATURDAY, JULY 7
Shabbat Balak, 10:30-11:30 am
Gentle Walk and Torah Study en route with Rabbi Angel

Ma Tovv Ohalecha Ya'acov - We will explore our local environs and pray as we go. Depending on our spirits that morning (and the weather) we will make a stop at Dolores Park. Come out and pl/ray.

MONDAY, JULY 16
Many Blessings Jewish and Buddhist Practices for Daily Life, 7:00 pm
with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Rev. Jisan Tova Green

In this class we will explore Jewish and Buddhist practices that can enrich and enliven our (continued on page 4)

Nitchabeir v'nifrach—Connect & Flourish

Introducing Sha'ar Zahav's Strategic Plan

REMARKS ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN RELEASE,
 DELIVERED BY THEN PRESIDENT, KAREN SCHILLER,
 AT THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN MAY

Three years ago, in a Va'ad meeting, I announced that I would devote my presidency to strategic planning. We are proud to announce that, after many, many hours of hard work by a lot of volunteers, we have a plan! *Nitchabeir v'nifrach* – Connect & Flourish! As we build stronger, deeper connections with each other and with potential members, our community will flourish.

Our plan is the result of the information, ideas, questions and concerns of the over 100 members who attended small group meetings last fall, the over 216 members who filled out the survey that was sent out last December, the people who attended our Leadership Advance last July, the mini-retreat in January or the town hall meeting in March, as well as our clergy and our staff. A group of 12 congregants met once a month from July through April, and, under the direction of our consultant Jamie Woolf and our committee chair Alisa Gilden, they discussed, argued, organized, wrote, analyzed, critiqued and questioned, and created a plan that would truly serve this congregation.

This plan was created by you, the members of Sha'ar Zahav. This comes from what you love about Sha'ar Zahav, and what you want to make better. This is your hopes for the future. This is your commitment to our community and to l'dor v'dor – the promise that Sha'ar Zahav will be here for generations to come.

In May, you received a letter with a link to the plan, and if you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please call the office. I want to call your attention to page 10 which holds the heart of our plan – our strategic vision and our strategic goal.

Our Strategic Vision is our affirmation for our community. You know what an affirmation is – it is something that may not yet be a true description of what you are, but if you say it enough, if you believe it enough, you can make it a reality. *We are a Jewish, progressive, diverse community that honors and maintains our LGBTQ culture and history. We have enough financial and human resources to provide* (continued on page 7)

Come Study With Me Now!



Don't wait until you have the time.

Calling all adult learners – who are always postponing serious adult learning for when they have more time... This is YOUR time! Come study with your Rabbi. Bring and share a favorite text that inspires you.

Together we will study prayer and what makes prayer Jewish.

Hear My Cry, O God, Heed My Prayer

(Psalm 61:1)

Thursdays: July 5 and August 16 both from 7-9 pm

What happens when a person prays? It seems like a simple question. Yet we realize that before we can answer any question about prayer in general, we need to ask ourselves about our own prayer life. Why do we pray? How do we pray? When do we pray? What is prayer for us? There could be an anthology of answers, but our emphasis will be on sharing the spiritual guidance we've learned with our own experience.

Another Learning Opportunity: Shabbat Balak

Saturday Morning, July 7, 10:30-11:30 am

Gentle Walk and Torah Study en route with Rabbi Angel

Ma Tovv Ohalecha Ya'acov - We will explore our local environs and pray as we go. Depending on our spirits that morning (and the weather) we will make a stop at Dolores Park. Come out and pl/ray.

Many Blessings Jewish and Buddhist Practices for Daily Life

July 16, 7:00 pm, with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Rev.

Jisan Tova Green

In this class we will explore Jewish and Buddhist practices that can enrich and enliven our days from the moment we

wake up until the time we close our eyes at night.

These include prayer and meditation, and mindfulness practices that enhance everyday activities including dressing, preparing food, eating, washing dishes, walking, driving, working, and speaking with loved ones and colleagues. We will study Jewish and Buddhist texts and experience practices from both traditions that may enliven our days.

The Earth is the Lord's and the Fullness Thereof: Our Place in the Natural World

Wednesday, July 25, 7:00-8:30 pm, with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

We will meet at shul and weather-permitting, take an easy, gentle, indirect, contemplative walk to Dolores Park, where we will study some Nahman of Bratslav texts in chavruta. We will have time to talk about Judaism's appreciation of the natural world as a medium of our experience of God's power, creativity, and vitality.

More Invitations to Nourish Our Connections with each other, our rabbi and sacred texts.

When I first came to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav 11 years ago, our lay leadership set up a series of "salons" or house meetings so the congregation and I could get to know each other. The meetings were wonderful and really helped build connections – not just between me and the community, but among the folks who attended the meeting as well.

Now, with our strategic plan "Connect and Flourish" hot off the press, the time is ripe for another series of these salons. Please join me and other CSZ congregants (and possibly a few non-members interested in getting to know our community) at a summer salon in your neighborhood.

At each salon, about 20 adults will get together to eat a little, schmooze a little, and study a little. I will facilitate the conversation and provide everyone an

(continued on page 15)

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Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism, the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews, and the San Francisco Organizing Project



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So You Want to Write a Strategic Plan?



IN THE EARLY 1960's, pianist Glenn Gould composed a piece for four voices titled "So You Want to Write a Fugue?". The piece illustrated the formulaic steps that are required to fit the definition of a fugue. In a fugue, the opening musical theme must be stated clearly, so that it is recognizable with each variation introduced by the subsequent voices. The sub-themes flow from what precedes them, following the rules of harmony and counterpoint as they are sung simultaneously. It's complex. But when the voices come together, they produce beautiful music.

Like writing a fugue, writing a strategic plan is a complex process, filled with themes and subthemes, harmony and counterpoint. *Nitchabeir v'nifrach* – Connect & Flourish – the strategic plan introduced at our Annual Meeting in May weaves together the many voices of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

What began with Karen Schiller's visionary idea, soon evolved into small group meetings in members' homes. The themes expressed at those meetings gave rise to working sessions that forged common concerns. And to ensure that we were hearing clearly, we rolled out a formal survey. The survey results allowed us to quantify areas in which the congregation was doing well, and highlighted areas in which we need to improve. At a town hall meeting in March, we presented the survey results and the current state of thinking on the Strategic Plan. Again, we heard your direct feedback. The strategic planning process synthesized public forums and small group discussions.

The synthesized result is an inspiring step toward our future. As it has been said, "You can and should shape your own future, because if you don't, someone else will." CSZ has clearly demonstrated the resolve to shape its future.

As we began to craft our formal strategic planning document, I started reading Hayim Herring's new book, *Tomorrow's Synagogue Today: Creating Vibrant Centers of Jewish Life*. Herring is critical of the ossified, hierarchical structure of

most synagogues. Bricks and mortar seem to define synagogue life in some communities. I don't think his analysis holds true for us. We are ahead of that curve.

Herring goes on to describe the desired synagogue model, which he calls "collaborative co-creation". This model entails true participation in synagogue life. It also creates a platform for organizing people of similar interests. In other words, for creating community.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan will be the charge of five Task Forces, and each of the Task Forces will be led by one of our newly elected officers:

Membership – Ruth Bernstein, VP

Connection – Barbara Cymrot, Recorder

Programming – Shoshana Levenberg, VP

Ritual – Tom Lakritz, VP

Finance – David Mishook, Treasurer

The details and benchmarks of implementation will be important outcomes from this year's Leadership Advance.

If I had to reduce our Strategic Plan down to three words, the phrase would be: to create community. I find it reassuring that the main message of our plan is the same prescription for success in Hayim Herring's work. To quote again, "When energized by a vision, many people will collaborate generously and voluntarily, co-creating content, activities, causes, products and events that they find important." Our Strategic Plan will be a success when we can say that this statement describes CSZ's community.

I invite you to give of yourself and to involve your friends. If you would like to work with one (or more) of the Task Forces, please contact the appropriate officer. Together we can create an amazing future, an amazing community.

No mention of the Strategic Plan would be complete without an expression of gratitude and thanks for the wisdom, dedication and insights of the whole committee, but special mention goes to Alisa Gilden and Immediate Past President Karen Schiller. Their efforts will pay huge dividends for our community. They have composed Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's Fugue.

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Volume 33, issue 3

What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav

(continued from page 1)

days from the moment we wake up until the time we close our eyes at night. These include prayer and meditation, and mindfulness practices that enhance everyday activities including dressing, preparing food, eating, washing dishes, walking, driving, working, and speaking with loved ones and colleagues. We will study Jewish and Buddhist texts and experience practices from both traditions that may enliven our days.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

The Earth is the Lord's and the Fullness Thereof: Our Place in the Natural World
7:00-8:30 pm, with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

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Meditation Chavurah

All are welcome to join us at our monthly meeting of the meditation chavurah, first Saturdays, July 7 and August 4. We will be gathering in the reception area at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav about 10:00 am and will walk to the nearby home

of a member to sit in a lovely, peaceful setting. A typical gathering includes a short and longer silent sit, often including a guided portion; some chanting; reflecting; and perhaps a short teaching. For more information, contact the office, or Sarita at saritafit@gmail.com

East Bay Chavurah

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 6:00 PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 6:00 PM

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav members and their guests are invited to CSZ's East Bay Chavurah, held the second Friday of every month. Our evening begins with blessings and a (continued on page 5)

High Holy Days 5773

Erev Rosh Hashanah,

Sunday, September 16

Rosh Hashanah, 1st day,

Monday September 17

Rosh Hashanah, 2nd day,

Tuesday, September 18

Kol Nidre, Erev Yom Kippur,

Tuesday, September 25

Yom Kippur,

Wednesday, September 26

Services will again be at the Herbst Theatre, War Memorial Building, except 2nd day Rosh Hashanah, which is held at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

PRACTICE AREAS

Divorce

*Domestic Partner
Dissolution*

Separation

*Property & Pension
Distribution*

Alimony

Custody

Visitation

Child Support

Restraining Orders

Paternity

*Pre-Marital
Agreements*

Post-Divorce Disputes

Modification of Orders

Appeals

FAMILY LAW

We recognize that a Family Law matter is one of the most difficult challenges that you may face—whether in a traditional or alternative family setting.

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Schoenberg
FAMILY LAW GROUP, P.C.

vegetarian/vegan potluck. At 7:30, adults and teens continue our Shabbat experience with some meaningful text-based Jewish dialogue. To RSVP or host a future event, or get more information, please contact Jessica Israel Cannon at jjisrael68@yahoo.com.

Va'ad Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 6:45 PM

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 6:45 PM

All are welcome to attend and listen to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's monthly Board meeting with its pre-set agenda.

Friday Night Live, September 28, 6:00 pm

Come celebrate a Shabbat specially designed for 0 to 6 year-olds. Our FNL service is followed by dinner in the Oneg Room. We will provide pizza (sponsored by parents), and we encourage you to bring a vegetarian dish to share with the community as well. Friday Night Live will resume on September 28, 2012, and generally takes place on the 4th Friday of the month during the school year.

The San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, www.sfjff.org

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will be co-presenting the films:

Y-Love

Castro Theatre – Tues. July 24 at 11:40 am
Berkeley Roda Theatre – Thurs. August 2 at 12:00 pm

Life in Stills

Castro Theatre – Tues. July 24 at 4:10 pm
CineArts – Sun. July 29 at 12:15 pm
Berkeley Roda Theatre – Mon. July 30 at 2:10 pm

The Moon is Jewish

Castro Theatre – Tues. July 24 at 11:40 pm
Berkeley Roda Theatre – Thurs. August 2 at 12:00 pm

Yizkor for the Fallen

**TUESDAY AUGUST 7, 2012 AT 7PM
AT CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV**

A memorial and public health activism project in memory of the 1,558 people known to have lost their lives to suicide from the Golden Gate Bridge.

Yizkor (may [God] remember) is a memorial prayer for the departed that is traditionally recited in synagogue four times a year, at Yom Kippur, Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot. The ritual of reciting the names of the dead is an additional component of the Yizkor service, which is a public opportunity to remember loved ones. Traditionally Yizkor also presents an opportunity to bring merit to their souls by performing acts of *tz'dakah* (charity) in their name.

August 7th, 2012 is the 75th Anniversary of the first known suicide from the Golden Gate Bridge. The citywide celebrations on May 27th, 2012 of the 75th Anniversary of the opening of the Bridge made scant mention of the legendary structure's other claim to fame — it's the number one suicide landmark in the world.

It was only 10 weeks after it first opened in 1937, that WWI veteran Harold Wobber became the Bridge's first known suicide. Wobber's leap precipitated a slow but steady stream of jumpers. As early as February 1939 (after the bridge's 11th jumper) a *San Francisco Call* article noted that the California Highway Patrol was pondering the problem of how to prevent "further suicidal leaps from the Bridge." A CHP officer presciently declared: "Hardly two years old, the span gives promise of becoming a Mecca for despondent persons seeking self-destruction."

A Yizkor for the Fallen will honor the memory of the 1,558 confirmed suicides (the tragic tally as of June 1, 2012) by reciting their names — the majority of which have been recently compiled for the first time in the groundbreaking book, *The Final Leap* by John Bateson.

The absence of a suicide barrier on the Golden Gate Bridge is an ongoing and significant public health issue. In addition to being a meaningful spiritual experience, this special Yizkor for the Fallen service is also a good deed in itself — a way of bringing greater public awareness to the problem and continuing to apply pressure to the Golden Gate Bridge District board of directors in hopes that funding sources will soon be found for the installation of a suicide net (a solution which was approved by the board of directors in 2008).

This special evening event will be co-presented by two Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (continued on page 10)

Charles Spiegel Law

REAL ESTATE

DIVORCE AND CUSTODY

**ADOPTION AND
SURROGACY**

**PRE AND POST NUPTIAL
AGREEMENTS**

Charles Spiegel, Esq.,
CSZ Member

Attorney and Mediator
CharlesSpiegelLaw@gmail.com
www.charlesspiegellaw.com
(415) 644-4555

A Sporting People of the Book



ONE OF the big areas of tsuris (trouble) for many Hebrew school principals is balancing out their students' love of sports and their attendance at religious

school. As most of you know, I am pretty relaxed about it because I never want the students to feel that their Judaism is impinging on another one of their interests. In my time at BSPM, we have managed to have students who excelled at both their sport of choice and their Jewish studies.

Now I confess, this has a lot to do with my upbringing that placed great importance on sports and Judaism. And yes... it is true that it may appear that my sporting is concentrated on the circus art of wearing stilt-like shoes, but in my time, I have biked to LA (in the AIDS ride) and other athletic endeavors.

I want to create an atmosphere in Jewish education where the two interests are blended. I get a lot of naches (pride) when a student reports back to me their success at soccer, t-ball, baseball, etc. We are after all just as much a people of the body as we are a people of the book. Plus you never know how the two interests will inspire each other. We had a wonderful mentor/student team (Hershey and Elias Ross Trupin) who were brought together by their love of the Red Sox!

In that vein I want to focus on two programs that blend both Judaism and sports in the hopes that perhaps your children will be eligible or interested in these programs.

The Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, founded eight years ago, provides recognition for Jewish athletes with a special recognition for Jewish high school students. We have had two stellar alumni of BSPM who have won the award.

Tsipora Prochovnick actually got two awards:

- in 2008 she received the Ariel Gilbert award, presented each year

to "a Jewish female athlete who has overcome obstacles and is thus an inspiring role model for other athletes" on account of her being low vision and an incredible athlete

- in 2009 she was in inductee/scholarship winner. Her sports: swimming, both high school team competition and open-water (Alcatraz swim, Golden Gate swim, etc.), and rock climbing (indoor and outdoor competitions).

Shayna Prochovnick

- 2011 - honorable mention
- 2012 - inductee/scholarship winner, for being the most extraordinary volleyball player in the universe.
- in addition to athletics, they also look at academics (good grades), community service participation (they liked Shayna's JFCS involvement), and Jewish involvement.

I hope you will keep this organization on your radar screen for your athletic child in the future.

The other Jewish sports organization is the teen Maccabi games. Here is their mission statement:

Mission

To offer Jewish Community Centers and YM/YWHAs in North America the opportunity to reach teens through participation in the JCC Maccabi Games®, and in year-round athletic, educational, cultural and social programs, as well as teen experiences in Israel.

To provide Jewish youth with a supportive environment that fosters mutual respect and sportsmanship, where they can interact in an atmosphere of fun, democracy, and peace.

To cultivate a deeper understanding and instill an appreciation of Jewish values within Jewish youth, enrich their Jewish identity in an informal setting, and encourage their identification with the State of Israel.

To promote and encourage the health, physical fitness, and well-being of Jewish youth through participation in recreational and athletic activities.

To introduce Jewish youth to the international Maccabi Movement, which presents athletic, cultural, and social opportunities with Jews from around the world.

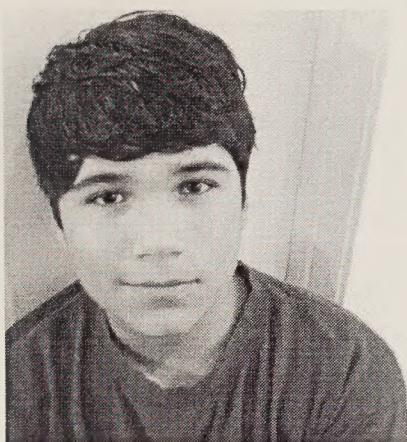
Both of these organizations help to build Jewish identity and help young people to share both their love of athletics and Judaism. I try to teach my students that there are many paths to G-d, and if you find yours in the gym or at the baseball diamond, you are still finding a way to create klal yisrael.

I hope everyone is having a wonderful and active Summer, and I look forward to seeing you in September.

L'Shalom,
Rebecca

Introducing the Bar Mitzvah

River Redtail Castaneda



River, son of Kim Gitnick, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on June 11 in Jerusalem! He and five of his cousins were called to the Torah together on a patio that overlooks the Old City. He was surrounded by 42 members of his family! The whole group then travelled together through the country for two weeks. We hiked

Masada, floated on the Dead Sea, toured the Old City, and took a short journey to Petra, Jordan. We're glad that Israel was ready for us!

River finished the 6th grade at The San Francisco School. This was his first year there. Prior to that he attended the Nueva School for grades Pre-K through 5. He loves to play basketball, listen to music, design cool computer graphics, and draw cartoons. River and his mom have been part of the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav community for the past four years. They live in Pacifica, about one block from the beach. They love to spend their weekends riding bikes along the coast.

We would like to thank River's mentor and Hebrew teacher Randy Weiss. Randy's dedication, surefire teaching skills, and terrific sense of humor helped River prepare for this exciting day. We would also like to thank Rebecca Weiner who has helped us in countless ways at Beit Sefer over the years and helped us to navigate this unique path towards River's Bar Mitzvah. We cannot wait to show everyone the pictures!

Sha'ar Zahav's Strategic Plan

(continued from page 1)

our members with the programs that they want and the support that they need. We are welcoming to ALL, and our members feel connected to each other and the community.

Our Strategic Goal is pretty straightforward: *To increase our membership to 450 member units and/or to find an alternative to our current financial structure within three to five years, while simultaneously creating opportunities for members to feel connected to and sustained by our community.*

This goal became obvious to us as we listened to what you said in the small groups and through the survey. You told us four things: 1) you are happy with Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and want to remain a progressive, LGBTQ-focused shul; 2) you want connection; 3) you want our congregation to provide you with services and programs; and 4) you reminded us that if we wanted Congregation Sha'ar Zahav to grow and thrive, to be able to provide you with the services and programs you want, increasing our membership to provide financial stability must become a priority.

To make this goal a reality, we created five taskforces. They are taskforces, not committees because we don't assume that they will be ongoing, and they won't take the place of already existing committees, although they will likely work side-by-side with existing committees. We gave each taskforce a mission, and three or four priorities to accomplish over the next three to five years.

The taskforces are: Membership – to increase our membership numbers; Connection – to build deeper, stronger connections among our community members; Programming – to create programs and partnerships that allow us to

connect and grow; Ritual – to fulfill the diverse spiritual needs of our community; and Finance – to create the capacity and get us the resources we need to support our community.

You may be thinking – don't we already do all this? And you're right – our plan does not assume we have to create something completely new or become something we're not. Our plan builds on what we already do really well. It builds on our strengths and gives us direction to overcome our weaknesses.

So how are we going to accomplish all this? In the same way we created the plan – by everyone stepping up and taking a role in making it happen. We are a congregation that prides itself on the involvement of its members – that's what makes us unique and what keeps us strong. All of us are important to our community, and, working together, we can ensure that our community remains vital and flourishes.

Within the next few weeks, our incoming president, James Carlson, will announce the chairs of each of the task forces, and the members of the oversight team. Please take a few minutes to think about how you want to help, think about which of these task forces call to you. You don't have to commit to being on a task force, although you might. Or you might have an idea for the task force, something you think you can offer in this area, some information you think task force members should know, or one thing you know that you can do to help. Contact our President James Carlson (president@shaarzahav.org) or the Implementation Oversight Team (strategicplanning@shaarzahav.org) and let them know how you are interested in helping.

The strategic plan ends with these very true words:

Yad b'yad nifrach v'nisgeh. Hand in hand, we will blossom and thrive.

17 TAMUZ

9:00 am Torah Study
10:00 am Meditation
10:15 am Shabbat Service
Chavurah

24 TAMUZ

9:00 am Torah Study
10:15 am Shabbat Service

2 AV

9:00 am Torah Study
10:15 am Shabbat Service

9 A1

9:00 am Torah Study
10:15 am Shabbat Service
Erev Tisha B'Av

10

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
17 AV 11:00 am Summer Salon	18 AV	19 AV 10:30 am Walk and Torah Study	20 AV 6:45 pm Va'ad Meeting	21 AV	22 AV 6:00 pm East Bay Chavurah 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	23 AV 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
24 AV	25 AV	26 AV	27 AV	28 AV 7:00 pm Hear My Cry	29 AV 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	30 AV 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
1 ELUL	2 ELUL	3 ELUL	4 ELUL	5 ELUL	6 ELUL 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	7 ELUL 9:00 am Torah Study 10:15 am Shabbat Service
8 ELUL	9 ELUL	10 ELUL	11 ELUL	12 ELUL	13 ELUL 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Yizkor for the Fallen

(continued from page 5)

congregants who have been active in the fight for a Bridge barrier for many years: San Francisco Suicide Prevention Executive Director Eve Meyer and filmmaker Jenni Olson (whose 2005 documentary *The Joy of Life* played a part in pressuring the Bridge District to approve a barrier). Eve and Jenni and other Congregation Sha'ar Zahav congregants will recite the names. All interested in participating in the reading of the names should contact Jenni Olson by email at butch@butch.org.

The organizers would like to extend a special thanks to John Bateson (author of *The Final Leap*) and his collaborator Dayna Whitmer who compiled the list of names for the book from online newspaper articles, the archives of San Francisco news reporter Malcolm Glover, and names released by the Marin County Coroner. Thanks also to the Bridge Rail Foundation (the primary organization that has been leading the call for a barrier) for their assistance.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (which means "Golden Gate" in Hebrew) welcomes people of all faiths to this special service and especially extends our welcome and condolences to the many friends and family who have lost loved ones to suicide from the Golden Gate Bridge.

For a more in-depth history of suicide and the Golden Gate Bridge please visit: <http://goldengatebridgemovie.blogspot.com/>

A Yizkor for the Fallen — Tuesday August 7, 2012 at 7pm at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (290 Dolores St. at 16th St.) San Francisco, CA. This service is free and open to the public.



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Our Legacy Community— Heading Toward 2nd-Year Goal

OK—so we are THREE names shy of our 2nd year goal (another 30 Letters of Intent)!!!

How about signing up and joining the wonderful members of our Legacy Society? Just send me an e-mail—irene.ogus@gmail.com and I'll send you what you need.

Plans are under way for a program of special recognition for all those who have submitted their Letter of Intent. This will be a permanent and practical way of showing our on-going gratitude to the names listed below:

Anonymous
Rabbi Camille Angel
Marianne Balin
Jesse (Shai) Begley
Dan Bellm & Rabbi Yoel Kahn
Wayne Bender
Francisco Caravayo & Jonathan Strober
James Carlson
Daniel Chesir
Ellie Cohen & Michal Goralsky
Paul Cohen
Robert Daroff
Jonathan Funk

David Gellman
Dr. Avraham Giannini
Allan Gold
Alan Gordon
Sarita Groisser
Alex Ingersoll
Batya Kalis
Rose Katz
Thomas Lakritz
Walter Leiss
Shoshana Levenberg
Nancy Levin
Deborah Levy
Ron Lezell
Jeffrey Lilly
Marc Lipschutz
Gerry Llamado
Laura Lowe
Eileen Lynette
Mark Mackler
Paul Margolis
Steve Mazer
Richard Meyerson
Irene Ogus
Ora Prochovnik & Rena Frantz
Andrew Ramer
Mike Rankin, M.D.
Gerald Rosenstein
Sharyn Saslafsky

Karen Schiller
Andrew Schwartz
Arthur Slepian
William "Bill" Smith
Howard Steiermann
Martin Tannenbaum
Susan Tubbesing
Deborah Udin
Dana Vinicoff
Larry Wexler
Dennis R. Ybarra
Frank Yellin & Mark Showalter
Jonathan Zimman
Mike Zimmerman
Ami Zusman

We will continue to reach out to our membership asking for a bequest to the Our Legacy Community campaign.

If you'd like to meet with a member of the Legacy committee to complete your own "Letter of Intent," or if you've already remembered us in your will and want to let us know, please contact me—Irene Ogus, irene.ogus@gmail.com

Forward – as ever to a bright future at CSZ.

Irene

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Alex Ingersoll in appreciation of Cantor's support.
Randy Weiss

CSZ Siddur Bookplates

Alex Ingersoll in memory of Ron Wilmot.
in memory of Miriam Mirvish.
in appreciation of Joanie Shalit.
in appreciation of Marc Lipschutz.
in appreciation of Karen Schiller.
in appreciation of Ora Prochovnick.
in appreciation of Steve Mazer.
in appreciation of Rabbi Dev Noily.
Beth Rubenstein & Evan Markiewicz in honor of Ilana Sherer & Elana Robinson-Lynch's aufruf.

CSZ Endowment

The estate of Patricia Bigglestone in memory of Clint Bigglestone.

Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Event Fund

Jonathan Funk in honor of Cantor Bernstein and all the musical participants of Shabbes Beat.
in loving memory of Rabbi Julius Funk.
Jonathan Funk & John Arnold in memory of Judy Davis.
in memory of Tybil Kahn.
in honor of Elijah Lezell Jatovsky's high school graduation & acceptance at Georgetown University.
in appreciation of Janet & Michael Silber.
Jonathan Funk, John Arnold & Evan in memory of Irene Smook.
Jason Feinberg in memory of Zekiye Bayir.

General Fund

Ann Bauman in honor of Rabbi Angel, Cantor Bernstein and Rabbi Dev Noily.
Allan Berenstein in memory of Joe Rosenthal.
in memory of his former wife, Marsha Nohl.
in memory of Tom Yazman, Nanci Stern, Jay Feinstein, Mark Feldman, Bob Mackey, Judy Macks, Duff Kreitzberg and Mirtha Beal.
Patty Caplan & Jonathan Simonoff in honor of Alex Ingersoll's Bar Mitzvah.
Brande Gentry in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.
Alice Harron

Batya Kalis in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.
Ron Lezell in memory of Sophie Lezell.
Marck Mackler in honor of Allan Gold & Alan Ferrera.
Carole Norris in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.
Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz in honor of Ann Bauman becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
in honor of Avidan Novogrodsky-Godt's Bar Mitzvah.
in memory of Jay Schwartz.
in honor of Elias Rose becoming a bar mitzvah.
Nina Raff & Annie Winters in memory of Lillian Raff.
in honor of Terri Raff Hurley's college graduation.
Morris Ratner
Lisa Schaechter in honor of Ann Bauman's Bat Mitzvah.
David Stein & Bill Stewart in honor of Alex Ingersoll.
Susan Tubbesing in memory of her uncle, Harry Bezman.
in memory of grandfather, Jacob Bezman's yahrzeit.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Marcy Adelman
Steve Abensohn
Jonathan Funk
Alex Ingersoll in appreciation of Rabbi's support.
Mark Pressler in honor of Rabbi Angel and her wise guidance.

Rainbow Fund 5772 Pledges

Donald Abrams
Marcy Adelman
Rabbi Camille Angel
Jessie Ap'neva & Nina Wouk
Jessie Austin
Carol Barnett & Tamara Abrams
Ann Bauman
Wayne Bender
Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman
Robert Bernardo
Ilana Bernstein & Diane Desmond
Ruth Bernstein & Matthew Patchell
Cantor Sharon Bernstein in honor of our wonderful CSZ.
Ray Bernstein
Larry Best in memory of his father, Alan Best.

Donna Blow & Nancy Muller in honor of Joshua's 16th birthday.
Anne Bluthenthal
Helen Bruno & Kevin Stein
Aaron Buchbinder in memory of Helen & Irving Buchbinder.
in memory of Phyllis Mintzer.
Diana Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker
Ali & Jessica Cannon
Patty Caplan & Jonathan Simonoff
James Carlson
Tiela Chalmers
Michael Chertok
Ellen Cleary
Ellie Cohen & Miki Goralsky
Helen Cohen & Mark Lipman
Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman
Rick Crane
Jonathan Crosby & Susan Belau
Kelly Cytron & Judy Hogan
Ann Daniels & Jonathan Zingman
Tim Detmers in memory of his sister, Joan Hanks.
Virginia Donohue & Mark Klaiman
Ron Edelman
Jim Edlin & Eve Meyer
Steve Elman
Sara & Rabbi Dev Felder Noily
Lisa Finkelstein
Paul Fishman & Mike Kurokawa
Terry Fletcher & Glen Hauer
Jonathan Funk
Andy Fyne
Steven Gaynes
David Gellman & Salo Rawet
Tamar Gershon
Avraham Giannini
Joan Goldman
Alan Gordon & Steve Schumacher
Sara Gorr in memory of her grandmother, Florence Gorr.
Tova Green
Sarita Groisser in honor of Karen Schiller.
Kirsten Gustavson & Amy Scharf in honor of our community's support of Benji's Bar Mitzvah.
Sara Haber
Tony Harris
Alana Herron
Marjorie Hilsenrad
Judy Huerta
Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tannenbaum
Lisa Inman & Alisa Gilden
Alison & Vanessa Jacoby
Jo Ellen Green & David Kaiser
Batya Kalis

(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

Jonathan Kaplan & Jackie Wong

Philip Kaplan & Ilona Turner

Yka Katske & Rabbi Reuben Zellman

in honor of our grandmothers.

Lisa Katz

Rose Katz

Janet Klein & Lisa DiGirolamo

Sherie Koshover

Clarissa Kripke & Gail Ludwig in honor
of Karen Schiller.

Ida Kuluk

Deena Lahn & Mary Schroeder

Tom Lakritz

Shoshana Levenberg & Andrea Guerra

in memory of Lorraine Guerra.

Deborah Levy

Ron Lezell

Alexis & Laurie Lezin-Schmidt

Jeffrey Lilly in honor of Jeff Rubin.

Marc Lipschutz in honor of Alex Ingersoll
& Martin Tannenbaum.

Ed Lopatin

Laura Lowe

Eileen Lynette in honor of Laura Lowe.

Mark Mackler

Mary Messer

Richard Meyerson

Ann Michels & Laureen Kim

David Mishook & Meg Keene in

memory of our departed grandparents.

Jose Luis Moscovich

Melissa & Steve Moss

Amelia Nahman

Jeanette Nichols

Irene Ogus

Mark Oliver & Steve Polsky

Todd Ormsbee

Daniel Ostrow in honor of his daughter,
Mina Bluthenthal.

Jeff Piade

Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz

Mark Pressler

Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz

Nina Raff & Annie Winters

Andrew Ramer in honor of his three
amazing mothers.

Ann Ritzma & Elaine Porter

Beth Ross & Laura Trupin in honor of
Linda Ross.

Beth Rubenstein & Evan Markiewicz in
honor of Rebecca Weiner.

in honor of Rabbi Camille Angel.

Sharyn Saslafsky in memory of her
mother, Esther Saslafsky.

Luke Schemmel & Jonathan Shapiro

Karen Schiller

Marianne & Danielle Schlosser in
memory of Adele Tawil

Barry Schmell

Susan Schwartz

Andy Schwartz

Karren Shorofsky & Carolyn Reiser

Jeff Shuman

Charlie Spiegel

Howard Steiermann

Fred Tannenbaum

Sam Thal

Kelly Thiemann

Martin Tilzer

Susan Tubbesing

A.J. & Ina Turpen Fried

Susan Unger & Pam Erwin

Jon Uytterlinde

Dana Vinicoff in memory of Florence
Benson.

Sam Walters

Rebecca Weiner in honor of Cantor
Bernstein.

Ethan Weisinger in memory of Sylvia
Hochman.

Rabbi Eric Weiss & Dan Alpert

Lonnie Weiss

Larry Wexler

Andrew & Michele Williamson in
memory of Marion LeMeteyer.

Gary Winter

Judith Wolfe

Dafna Wu

Jonathan Zimman

Mike Zimmerman

Lydia & David Zinn

Ami Zusman

**April
13/14**

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by
Rabbi Elliot Kukla *In memory of his
grandmother, Lily Kukla*

20/21

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored
by **Seth Novogrodsky** *In honor of his
nephew, Avidan's Bar Mitzvah*

Saturday Kiddush generously spon-
sored by **Avidan Novogrodsky-Godt's
grandparents, David Novogrodsky and
Karen Sherr & Richard and Natalie
Godt** *In honor of his Bar Mitzvah*

27/28

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored
by **Deborah Udin** *In memory of her
mother, Marian Stoller
and friend, Camille Templeton*

May

11/12

Friday Oneg & Bimah Flowers gener-
ously sponsored by **Ann Bauman &
Kelly Thiemann** *In honor of their 20th
wedding anniversary.*

Saturday Kiddush generously spon-
sored by **Ilana Sherer & Elana Robin-
son-Lynch** *In honor of their aufruf.*

18/19

Friday Oneg generously sponsored by
**The families of the graduating high
school seniors who are being blessed
and honored this Shabbat**

25/26

Friday Night Live generously spon-
sored by **Liz Noteware & Angie Dalfen**
*In honor of their son, Ari Dalfen's 3rd
birthday!*
& **Donna Sky**

Bimah Flowers & Kiddush Luncheon
generously sponsored by **The Rose
Family** *In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of
Elias Rose*

Sponsorships

Naches

Mazel Tov to Scott and Glenda Graham on the birth of their daughter Chaya Eliana Gutierrez Graham in Haifa, Israel on April 10.

Mazel Tov to Shayna Prochovnick who received the Morris Weiss Scholarship Award for an essay she submitted. She accepted the award at the Community Yom HaShoah program.

Mazel Tov to Martin Rawlings-Fein for being on of *The Advocate's* Forty Under 40.

Mazel tov to Elana Robinson-Lynch for earning her MSW from Berkeley.

Mazel tov to Rabbi Joseph Hample who on August 1 will become the Rabbi of Tree of Life Congregation in Morgantown, WV.

Dr. Donald Abrams has a piece coming out in the Summer 2012 *Reform Judaism* magazine.

Lifecycles

Mazel Tov to Drew Parker-Rose and Flavio Epstein on their new family member, baby daughter, Carina Elisa Rose and on the naming of their daughter.

Mazel Tov to Avidan Novogrodsky-Godt on his bar mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to Elias Rose on his bar mitzvah.
Mazel Tov to Deanna Schemmel Shapiro on her bat mitzvah.

Mazel Tov to River Redtail Castaneda on his bar mitzvah.

Condolences

Our condolences to Carol Dawson Rose on the loss of her friend, Roscoe Bigler.

Our condolences to Jenni Olson on the loss of her step-sister Joan Fritz.

Our condolences to Andy Schwartz and John Mark Eggerton on the loss of their father and father-in-law, Jay Schwartz.

Our condolences to Paula Fleisher, Lucy Bernholz, and Harry Bernholz on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Risselle (Rikki) Rosenthal Fleisher.

Our condolences to Michael Chertok on the loss of his friend, Reuben Loya.

Our condolences to Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Dan Bellm and Adam Bellm Kahn on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Tybil Kahn.

New Members

Welcome to new CSZ members: Alice Harron, Audriannah Levine-Ward, J David Lowe, Ray Maclachlan (returning), Irene & Autumn Ross

Member Yahrzeits

July

- 1 Rachel Mailman
- 4 Edwin Gabay
- 5 Matthew Rostoker
- 6 David Roy Custead
- 9 Alexander Louis Konski
- 17 Steven P. Berman
- 25 Seth Miller
- 30 Phillip Resnick

August

- 2 David H. Kotch
- 3 Hal Podgur
- 4 Jordan Berger
- 5 Ernie Weinstein
- 6 Jay Platt
- 7 Mark Landsberger
- 16 Peter Rosenfeld
- 18 Elliot Schneck
- 28 Jay Feinstein

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Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives.

Where there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible.

We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

*Rabbi Camille
Shira Angel*

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Helen Schwartz, Pre-need Counselor*

Volunteer Recognition at the Annual Meeting

One of the things that makes our congregation unique is the active involvement of so many volunteers. Every year at our Annual Meeting, we honor some of those volunteers. Here is what our president, Karen Schiller, said about the volunteers we recognized this year:

Tonight I want to start by thanking Kim Lezin-Haveson. Last year, Kim stepped up to manage our Friday Night Live program, our Friday night service for 0 to 6 year olds on the 4th Friday of the month. This is a job that isn't really visible to most of us, but it's vital work for our synagogue. FNL attracts dozens of young families to our congregation, and Kim made sure they all got fed and cared for, and connected to our community. Kim is handing over the reins of FNL to Alisa Gilden, so an additional thanks to Kim for making sure this program is in good hands.

Next, I want to thank the members of the Follow-Up to the Israel Survey Committee or FISC. One of the things we learned in the Israel Survey from a few years back is that this congregation wants to learn about and talk about what's going on in the Middle East. Terry Fletcher formed a committee to help make this a reality. As they thought about what they wanted to do, the committee decided that every program they organized should include facilitated discussion groups, so some of the committee members, as well as some additional volunteers, spent a day training with a facilitator from the Jewish Dialogue Group, so that they could have the skills to facilitate difficult discussions.

In this issue of the JGF, there's a report from the committee about all the programs they have organized this year, programs that brought together 25-30 members and non-members each time, and which I know other syna-

gogues are hoping to emulate. Committee members are: Aaron Buchbinder, Terry Fletcher, Nancy Levin, Mark Pressler, Davey Shlasko, Arthur Slepian and myself. Additional facilitators include: Kendra Froshman, Glen Hauer, Marc Lipshutz, Amelia Prather-Nahman, Ora Prochovnick, Andy Schwartz, and Jacqui Shine.

Finally, I want to once more thank the members of the Strategic Planning Committee. First, Alisa Gilden. Alisa herded the cats. She kept us on track, made sure we did what we said we would do, and spent hours analyzing all the information we gathered so that we could write a coherent and practical plan. We would not have a plan today without her. I could not have had a better partner in this process, and our congregation could not have had a better leader.

Even though Ruth Bernstein wasn't officially on the committee, she deserves our special thanks as well. Ruth and her staff at EMC Research donated their time and energy to create and analyze the survey that 216 of you filled out last December. We now have a 314-page book that quantifies and cross-tabulates the opinions and concerns of our congregation. Thanks to her and her colleagues at EMC Research, we had a lot of great information about our congregation to work with in designing the plan, and as we move forward.

And now a big final thanks to the Strategic Planning Committee. Each of them care deeply about our community, and gave the best of themselves to help make us better. Please thank: Ann Bauman, James Carlson, Alex Ingersoll, Nancy Kates, Shoshana Levenberg, Nancy Levin, Eileen Lynette, Shelli Rawlings-Fein, Martin Tannenbaum, Kelly Thiemann, Michael Tyler, and Ami Zusman.

Come Study With Me Now!

(continued from page 2)

opportunity to engage with each other and with me over a Jewish text/idea in the hopes of deepening relationships and building connections.

Check out the dates and RSVP to the CSZ office. Space is limited.

Please choose one in your neighborhood.

Our gracious hosts and dates:

Sunday, July 1, 11:00 am-1:00 pm Karren Shorofsky and Carolyn Reiser, Noe Valley

Sunday, July 15, 11:00 am-1:00 pm Lisa Inman and Alisa Gilden, Noe Valley

Sunday, August 5, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, David Gelman and Salo Rawet, Upper Castro

Once you RSVP, the office will give you the exact address.

If you'd like to see a salon in your neighborhood, please email me at rabbicamilleangel@gmail.com.

Looking forward to connecting and nourishing our community,

Camille Shira

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

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San Francisco CA 94103

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